

described at the end of the order ECHINONEMATA, under a new family, viz. "Pseudocchinonemata."

So the remaining group in the family Pseudohircinida, viz. the Pseudoarenosa, in which the spiculation of a *Halichondrina* or an *Esperia* may be often seen in a perfect or entire state, may, under the same circumstances, be added to the order HOLORHAPHIDOTA under the family name of "Pseudoholorhaphidota," to correspond in nomenclature and signification with those already proposed for the RHAPHIDONEMATA and ECHINONEMATA respectively.

[To be continued.]

XXVI.—*Remarks on the Variations of Elapomorphus lemniscatus.* By G. A. BOULENGER.

[Plate X.]

SIMULTANEOUSLY with the publication, in the last number of these 'Annals,' of my "List of Reptiles and Batrachians from the Province Rio Grande do Sul, sent to the Natural-History Museum by Dr. H. von Ihering," I received, through the kindness of Dr. A. Strauch, a separate copy of his contribution, "Bemerkungen über die Schlangengattung *Elapomorphus* aus der Familie der Calamariden"\*. One species is described as new, viz. *E. Iheringi*, from Rio Grande do Sul, which is the form mentioned in my "List" as a hitherto unrecorded variety of *E. lemniscatus*, distinguished by the absence of the black vertebral band.

The fact that Dr. Strauch had only one specimen before him, and none of the allied forms for comparison, explains the error into which he has fallen. But I trust the illustrations appended to this note will convince the eminent herpetologist that the differences relied upon by him are not sufficiently constant to warrant a specific, or even subspecific, distinction.

We have at present in the Natural-History Museum eight specimens determined as *E. lemniscatus*, to which, for convenience, I will refer by letters:—

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| a. Adult. (Ventrols 204, Caudals 22.) | Paraguay (Prof. Grant).                                  |
| b. Adult. (V. 208, C. 22.)            | } Uruguay.   |
| c. Half-grown. (V. 185, C. 25.)       |  |
| d. Young. (V. 192, C. 26.)            | } Rio Grande do Sul (Dr. von Ihering).                   |
| e. Adult. (V. 208, C. 25.)            |  |
| f. Adult. (V. 209, C. 26.)            | } High Pampas of San Luis, Mendoza<br>(Mr. E. W. White). |
| g. Young. (V. 186, C. 28.)            |  |
| h. Adult. (V. 212, C. 24.)            |  |

\* Mém. Biol. Ac. St. Pétersb. xii. pp. 141–211 (1835).

No two specimens are perfectly alike.

The characters insisted upon by Dr. Strauch as distinguishing *E. Iheringii* from *E. lemniscatus* are the following:— In the latter the snout is narrower and three black bands run along the back, the outer ones being separated from the black colour of the ventral shields. In the former the snout is remarkably broad and rounded, and the head is much depressed and even longitudinally grooved on its upper surface; the median black dorsal band is absent, and the black of the ventrals extends to the flanks. Now we may take specimens *b* and *f* (so lettered also on the Plate) as the extreme forms, representing *E. lemniscatus* and *E. Iheringii* respectively; however, in the latter the head is neither so strongly depressed as observed by Dr. Strauch, nor longitudinally grooved. The differences between these two specimens are considerable, but are bridged over by the others—specimen *a* with the typical coloration and the broad rounded snout; *e* with the black vertebral band, but without the light band separating the ventrals from the latero-dorsal ones; *g* lacking the former, and with distinct indication of the latter. To another variety, not noticed before, belongs specimen *h*; the scales between the black dorsal bands are not yellowish (or red), but greyish brown, each with a small crescentic black marking, and the light collar is absent.

In concluding I must also remark that there is no more ground for separating *E. reticulatus* of Peters from *E. lemniscatus*. The type specimen of the latter species, described by Duméril, must be anomalous if really possessing a simple anal, for all the eight specimens in the British Museum, as well as those examined by Jan, have that shield divided.

XXVII.—*Report on the Testaceous Mollusca obtained during a Dredging-excursion in the Gulf of Suez in the Months of February and March 1869.* By ROBERT MACANDREW.—*Republished, with Additions and Corrections, by ALFRED HANDS COOKE, M.A., Curator in Zoology, Museum of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy, Cambridge.*—Part I.

THE following Catalogue is a revision of the above "Report," which appeared in the Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. for December 1870. In 1873 Mr. MacAndrew died, bequeathing all his collections to the University of Cambridge, and it has fallen to my lot to work through and arrange them. I have been induced to pay particular attention to these Suez shells, which have always been kept in drawers quite by themselves, because

an opportunity so seldom occurs of investigating a collection made by a skilled collector, which undoubtedly is derived from the locality specified, and from that locality only. The problem of the geographical distribution of the Mollusca will never even approach solution until we have a number of such collections as this to supply us with adequate data to work upon.

Two reasons have induced me to propose to reissue this "Report" in an entirely new form—firstly, because in Mr. MacAndrew's copy of his pamphlet, now in this museum, numerous corrections and additions occur in his own handwriting; secondly, because a careful examination showed that a certain proportion of his identifications were wrong, and therefore the catalogue as it stood was misleading. Whoever helped him to determine his specimens had evidently gone upon the principle of making as many species out of them as possible (see, *e. g.*, the list of *Ancillaria* below), and the correction of this tendency alone has meant a good deal of work. I may further add that in the "Report" such an entry as "——. Eleven species, undetermined," was not uncommon. Many of these have now been identified, while a few turn out to be new species.

The geographical affinities of the Suez shells have already been remarked upon by Mr. MacAndrew in his article. Taking two genera only I find that

Of 19 species of *Cypræa* found at Suez,

9	are common to the Sandwich Islands;
6	"    "    Japan;
8	"    "    Australia;
5	"    "    Natal.

Of 7 species of *Triton* found at Suez,

2	are common to the Sandwich Islands;
2	"    "    Japan;
1	is    "    "    Australia.

But I hope to deal more fully with the distribution of the species at the end of this article.

The localities that I have added are in every case drawn from authentic sources, either from the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society,' the 'Annals and Magazine of Natural History,' various other scientific publications, or from private sources of information on which I can rely.

Words placed within square brackets are additions to or corrections of the original article.